

USER ACCESS SYSTEM USING PROXIES FOR ACCESSING A NETWORK

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Apparatus and methods of using proxies for accessing a computer network, e.g. through a publicly accessible  
10 network, is disclosed. A connection between the client and a network server is established not directly but through a client proxy device located at the client and a proxy server at the local area network. The connection between the client proxy device at the client and a proxy  
15 server at the local area network may be established through a firewall restricting access to the local area network and/or client. In establishing the connection, ports of the client proxy device at the client side may be mapped in multiple operations to the ports of network  
20 servers of the local area network. The invention allows the client to utilize common network protocols such as for example ftp, http, IMAP and similar at the client side to access data or services available at the local area network side.

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